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26 July 1982

VIETNAM REPORT

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SELF-DEFENSE, PROTECTION FORCES EXPLAINED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Jun 82 p 2

[Article by Dinh Huyen: "The Relationship Between Self-Defense Forces and Protection Forces"]

[Text] At present, nearly all of the organs and enterprises (including factories, construction sites, state farms, state forests, etc.) of the central and local levels have self-defense forces and protection forces. Each force has its own requirements, missions, and functions: the self-defense forces mainly fulfill national defense missions, while the protection forces are principally engaged in maintaining security and order at the base level.

However, at a time when the enemy are feverishly waging an all-round war of destruction and negative phenomena in the economy and in society have not yet been overcome, the security-order front has become increasingly pressing. The resolution of the Fifth Party Congress stated that "Ensuring political security and social order and safety is an extremely important mission in order to defeat the enemy's all-round war of destruction." Now more than ever, all cadres and men in the self-defense forces and all cadres and personnel fulfilling protection missions in organs and enterprises must fully understand the viewpoint "national defense and the economy are one in the same." In both thought and action, the actions of the self-defense and protection forces in each base must be truly united and closely coordinated. Close coordination must not be restricted to the resolutions of the party committee echelons and the directives of the commanders, but must be manifested in the form of specific contents, regulations, methods, and actions. The contents of the coordinated plans encompass the ensuring of political security, the maintenance of military and economic secrecy, and the protection of the property of the state, the collectives, and the cadres, workers, and civil servants. The consultation, daily activity, situation reporting, experience exchanging, and professional study systems involving the two forces must be stipulated very clearly. The best coordination method is for each force to take the initiative in setting specific requirements and contents regarding coordination with the other force. The self-defense forces take the initiative in recommending to the protection forces coordination in national defense missions, with emphasis on protection forces coordination in national defense missions, with emphasis on protecting troop recruitment; protecting military

documents, combat plans, and defense plans; protecting warehouses, weapons, and equipment; bringing an end to fires, explosions, the damaging and loss of weapons, etc. The protection forces take the initiative in recommending that the self-defense forces ensure security and order; ensure safety inside and outside the organs and enterprises, and on routes via which materials and goods are shipped; and implement regular and ad hoc plans in each key area as well as at each specific time. All activities in the maintenance of political security and social order and safety demand as much bravery, resourcefulness, and flexibility as actual combat.

If the self-defense and protection forces of the organs and enterprises want to attain a high degree of coordination in their actions, first of all there must be unified leadership and command. That is the most important, most decisive factor, but it has not yet been unified organizationally. In some places the party committee echelons of the organs and enterprises appoint two party committee members to directly command the two forces. Some places organize separate self-defense and protection command committees, while other places set up a unified self-defense-protection command committee and merge the self-defense and protection forces into a single organization. Obviously, each such organizational form and method has certain strong points and bases, but each organization must make its basic objectives, missions, and functions its highest principles. Recently, a number of organs and enterprises have taken the "initiative" of combining the self-defense and protection forces, which has led to the situation of the self-defense forces in such places only emphasizing criminal acts and fighting and prevention of fires, while little attention is paid to the basic, long-range mission of building comprehensively strong units in order to defeat the enemy aggressors should war break out. In fact, the self-defense forces in such places only fulfill the functions of protection forces and there is no longer a relationship of close cooperation.

This is one of the new problems that have arisen in the mass movement. It must be promptly brought up for consideration, so that we can exchange opinions and gain experience.

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CSO: 4209/395

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

MILITARY REGION 9 ASSISTS BASE LEVEL ECONOMICALLY

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Jun 82 p 1

[Article by Vuong Binh: "Economics Department of Military Region 9 Regularly Sends Cadres to Assist the Base Level and Raise Professional Levels"]

[Text] The principal mission of the Economics Department, a staff organ of the military region on the economic front, is to guide the activities of 22 state farms and more than 50 agricultural stations. Although it was only formed at the beginning of 1981 and is inexperienced in economic work, with a high degree of determination on the part of all cadres and men, and with the close, specific guidance of the party committee, the Economics Department has done a good job of fulfilling the missions assigned by the upper echelons and is making strong progress.

The Department is promoting a movement to economize in consumption and in production. The ability of the scientific-technical cadres is being improved and many new economic projects have been proposed and carried out. Recently the Department coordinated with Group 627 in surveying, designing, and constructing a road around the Mekong Delta Technical Center. An evaluation affirmed that the road met technical standards. The Department also sent five tractor units to the villages in O Mon District to help the people keep on schedule.

Although it has few personnel, the Economics Department has continually sent cadres to the base level to directly guide production. Those trips have helped the organ to draft timely plans that are appropriate to the actual situation, to rapidly gain experience, and to correct deficiencies and develop the new factors. Its specific tasks and high effectiveness prove the positive economic impact of the Department's activities.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

EQUIPMENT ISSUE STANDARDS EXPLAINED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Jun 82 p 3

[Article: "Military Equipment Standards for Noncommissioned Officers and Enlisted Men"]

[Text] Question: What are the annual military equipment standards regarding issue to noncoms and enlisted men after a year in the service? (Nguyen Danh Suong and Tran Thuy, on behalf of the new recruits of unit C of the Capital Military Region).

Answer: According to Official Letter No 271/HC, dated 10 February 1968, and the annual guidance documents of the Rear Services General Department, military equipment is issued as follows:

With regard to noncoms and enlisted men (with 1 year of service time), the following military equipment is issued annually:

-- Uniform items: Two uniforms, two sets of underwear, two washcloths, two pairs of socks, and two pairs of cloth shoes. With regard to female noncoms and enlistees, in addition to the above standard they are issued 2 to 2.2 meters of black cloth, a meter of thin cloth, and tailoring money in place of underwear. They are also supplied 3 meters of crepe.

-- Long-term military equipment: Personnel may exchange the long-term military equipment items the utilization time of which has passed: one stiff hat every 3 years, one mosquito net every 4 years, one backpack every 5 years, one small belt every 3 years, one woven blanket every 4 years, one plastic raincoat every 18 months, one individual mat every 18 months, and a warm jacket every 4 years (women are not issued belts).

Military personnel who enlisted during the past 6 months and have been issued all of the standard new recruit military equipment items during the following year are issued the annual military equipment items: two uniforms two sets of underwear, two wash cloths, two pairs of socks, and two pairs of cloth shoes. Women are issued 2 to 2.2 meters of black cloth, one meter of thin cloth, and tailoring money in place of underwear, as well as three meters of mosquito netting.

With regard to military personnel who enlisted during the past 6 months of the previous year, during the following year they are issued winter equipment, including one uniform, one set of underwear, one wash cloth, one pair of socks, and one pair of shoes (the old ones need not be turned in). Women are issued the same items.

Military Equipment Department,
Rear Services General Department

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

HA BAC, THAI BINH TRAIN MILITIA

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Jun 82 pp 1,4

[Article by Vu Phong Tao and Nguyen Ba Con: "Ha Bac: More Than 10,000 Militiamen Trained at Work Sites; Thai Binh: 75 Percent of Villages Complete Militia Training Program"]

[Text] Fulfilling their hard-core assault role in implementing the policy of combining economics with national defense and national defense with economics, more than 10,000 self-defense militia unit members in the districts of Luc Nam, Thuan Thanh, Yen Phong, Viet Yen, Tien Son, Que Vo, and Giang Luong in Ha Bac Province have undergone military training and political education at the dike-embankment and flood-prevention work sites.

Between 25 March and 10 April nearly 7,000 self-defense militia unit members in Luc Nam District completed more than 50 percent of the annual excavation and embankment volume. More than 600 regular army cadres and men stationed in the district simultaneously worked and participated in militia training at the work site.

The cadres of the military organs of Thuan Thanh District participated in the work site command committee while directly carrying out political education for more than 1,000 self-defense militia unit members.

More than 1,500 Que Vo District militiamen working at the Cau River dike-embankment site studied materials to increase their revolutionary vigilance and determination to defeat the all-round war of destruction waged by the Beijing reactionaries. The cultural-artistic activities and the film showings at the work site helped create a spirit of working and training to attain high productivity and high quality.

In addition to the stipulated subjects, the militia of Gia Luong District studied the methods of passing on orders during urgent situations, which fulfilled both the requirements of combat readiness and the mission of preventing and fighting storms and floods.

Celebrating the 92nd birthday of President Ho Chi Minh in a practical manner, and carrying out their emulation agreements, by the end of April 1982 75.3 percent of the villages in Thai Binh Province had completed the 1982 militia training program.

Carrying out the orders of the General Staff, this year Thai Binh strictly implemented training for the self-defense militia, and the movement was more uniform and was completed earlier (in 1981, only 50 percent of the villages had completed the program by that date.) The districts of Vu Thu, Kien Xuong, Dong Hung, Tien Hai, and Thai Thuy completed the training of the combat arms and the specialized teams and units. Fifty percent of the specialized platoons fulfilling national defense-security missions were also trained.

This year the quality of training clearly improved. The province and eight districts and cities held 22 supplementary classes for 2,112 self-defense militia cadres. The localities concentrated on training the mobile units of the districts, village clusters, and villages. Hung Ha District arranged for three battalions to practice reinforcement maneuvers. Three mobile militia battalions of Kien Xuong District organized training in long-range movement to the front. In a tactical examination all three battalions attained a "good" rating, 84.1 percent of the troops attained the requirements, and 61.9 percent attained "good" or "skilled" ratings in marksmanship lesson No 1.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SRV ARMY PAPER ON MILITIA TRAINING

BK071327 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Jun 82, pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Satisfactorily Fulfill the Task of Training Militia and Self-Defense Forces"]

[Text] Combat training always has an especially important position in all armed forces. If we want to increase the combat strength of the militia and self-defense forces to cope with the new situation and tasks, we must conduct combat training well so as to ensure that all units are properly trained.

In the struggle to correctly fulfill the 1982 training task, it is decisive that party committees at all echelons and regional military commands and the command cadres of militia and self-defense forces understand at all times the role and strategic position of militia and self-defense forces, the party's method of conducting local people's warfare in national defense wars, and all of the training directives and orders from the chief of general staff. At the same time, combat tactics for militia and self-defense forces must be studied at all levels to ensure that they suit the characteristics of various regions. On this basis, training plans will be outlined in a realistic and substantial manner and appropriate training methods and organization will be established. The training program contents must agree with the prescribed basic program and be applicable to the characteristics of each region, each objective and each type of militia and self-defense forces. In training, it is necessary to thoroughly grasp the guideline of closely associating training with combat preparedness so as to satisfy the combat requirement of defending the regions and assuring order and security. In the struggle to enhance the quality of each training subject as well as the whole training program, we should resolutely overcome all manifestations of formalism which show a tendency to run after quantitative but superficial achievements without paying proper attention to the quality of training to cope with the prescribed combat duties. Combat operations by small detachments--especially squads and platoons--are the most effective and common operations which suit the capability and mission of militia and self-defense forces. Consequently, we must carefully and steadily emphasize the basic training of each man and each small detachment so that all of them are familiar with their assigned weapons and equipment and the combat tactics suitable to the characteristic of enemy, terrain and weather in their localities.

The militia and self-defense forces of primary installations are now organized into three components: The combat force, the combat support force and the refugee protection force. The combat force includes an on-the-spot combat element, a mobile element and various armed services. Each force is assigned a different mission and combat duty. As a result, there must be different training programs and lengths of training for each objective and each force. We must concentrate on training the combat force first, especially those forces on the frontline and in critical inland areas. These forces must be assigned cadres with the best training, command and combat abilities. Training for each objective and each component of the militia and self-defense forces requires that the organizational work of cadres be carried out in a detailed and not general, simplistic or casual manner. It is a waste of effort and time to apply to unique and general training plan to all objectives which not only would jeopardize production but also prevent us from fulfilling the requirements of increasing their combat strength.

At a time when production is busy and the use of product contracts with individual workers and groups of workers is increasingly widespread throughout the country, the training of militia and self-defense forces must be combined all the more closely with production in line with the new business method. Local military agencies and militia and self-defense force cadres of all ranks must coordinate closely with production organizations to formulate specific plans and proper time schedules to ensure that training can be conducted in line with the production situation in localities and primary production units. It is not advisable to conduct training in times of busy production. Moreover, each training phase must be prepared carefully with regard to instructors, training facilities and exercises so that every hour spent and every lesson taught brings real results, avoiding a waste of labor time and adverse efforts on the livelihood of militia and self-defense combatants' families.

CSO: 4209/415

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

DEALERS IN PRECIOUS METALS, FOREIGN CURRENCY IMPRISONED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 13 May 82 p 4

Text On 1 June 1981, public security agents in Hoan Kiem Precinct caught Nguyen Van Khoa in the act of dealing in gold at house No 2, Hang Buom Street, where he had been residing illegally. A search of Khoa's house led to the confiscation of 39,300 Vietnamese dong, nearly 3 taels of gold and 2.5 kgs of silver. While the public security agents were searching Khoa's house, Nguyen Thi Thanh came from Vinh City, bringing along \$1,400, and Nguyen Quang Toan also brought in nearly 1 tael of gold to trade with Khoa. They were immediately arrested on charge of illegally trading in gold and foreign currency.

Before the investigating organ and the court which tried this case, the convicts confessed their deeds: Since July 1980, Khoa and his accomplices established connections with others, traded in about \$22,000 and paid off by gold and Vietnamese currency.

This is a case of gold trade and speculation involving many culprits. Though these dealings did not take place over a long period of time and the amount of foreign currency and precious metals subjected to speculation was not large, they were nonetheless of a serious nature because they disrupted the market and hampered the control over foreign exchange.

Most of the defendants were recidivists who used to carry out illegal activities such as dealing in foreign currency and precious metals to make a profit.

At its first instance session, the municipal people's court sentenced Nguyen Van Khoa to 3 years in prison with a fine of 25,000 dong.

The remaining defendants were sentenced each from 6 months of imprisonment with suspended execution of sentence to 3 years of imprisonment. The amount of money, gold and silver illegally used by the defendants in their commercial dealings was confiscated.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SECURITY GUARDS, WORKERS STEAL FACTORY PRODUCTS

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 14 May 82 p 4

A Story a Day Column by "Nguoi Xay Dung" [Builder]: "It Is Always a Matter of Entrusting Gold to Trustworthy People"

Text The enterprise had a security section as required and the security guards shared the daily task of working on three shifts and keeping a permanent, 24-hour guard. But losses of property continued to occur and the thieves could not be caught until 0330 on 22 April when the moment of truth came.

On that night, ambush units were posted at predetermined places and times. Midnight came and the late hours passed. Everything was quiet. Before the scrutinizing eyes of the public security agents there was nothing but the sight of the enterprise security guards moving about with rifles slung across their shoulders. At dawn, the same security guards were seen again but this time with their rifles slung across one shoulder and bicycle rims across the other--these rims having been smuggled out of the warehouses. The whole group of security guards and bad workers of the enterprises was thus caught in the act. Among them were a deputy head of the security bureau, three security guards and two workers. The stolen property was composed of bicycle rims and spare parts valued at tens of thousands of dong and included also a cassette recorder. Owing to their patience and cleverness, the cadres and combatants of ambush unit F-264 neatly caught the malefactors and successfully protected the socialist property. The leadership committee in the Thong Nhat Bicycle Enterprises Federation would surely have drawn a very valuable lesson on the need to entrust gold to trustworthy people.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

HO CHI MINH CITY SECURITY TEAMS--Implementing the city party committee decision on building wards and precincts, various urban wards such as Binh Thanh, Phu Nhuan and precincts 3, 5, 8 and 11 have established 2,679 security teams. These teams have conducted regular patrols to eliminate crimes and have cooperated with the people to discover smugglers and foil all psychological warfare activities of the reactionaries. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Jul 82 BK]

HA TUYEN MILITARY TRAINING--Ha Tuyen Province has satisfactorily completed its military training task designed for the first 6 months of this year. Various military commands of all echelons, especially those at the frontline, have regularly educated officers and combatants to heighten their vigilance and stand ready for combat readiness in order to promptly cope with the enemy's unexpected ambushes and discover and capture intruding scouts. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 7 Jul 82 BK]

TRAINING COURSE--In order continually to improve the ability of the special armed services to organize, command, lead and administer troops and to provide clothing and special equipment, the chemical corps recently conducted a training course for all chemical department chiefs of military regions, army corps, armed forces and services, schools, institutes and units and agencies subordinate to the headquarters. During the training course, the chemical corps headquarters party committee and headquarters cadres provided constant personal guidance, observations and close supervision and control. The graduation results show that all the students have met the requirements and 82 percent of them have been rated good or excellent. [Text] [BK090734 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 8 Jul 82]

CSO: 4209/414

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

'NHAN DAN' CONDEMS U.S. OBJECTION TO NEW SEA LAW

OW150825 Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT 15 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi VNA 15 July--'NHAN DAN' today says that the approval of the convention of the law of the sea by an overwhelming majority at the United Nations shows a growing trend of the world while underlying U.S. imperialists isolation.

The paper notes: "The new law of the sea with its many progressive provisions reflects the success of the persistent struggle of the socialist and developing countries against imperialist exploitation. It respects the nations' sovereignty, especially their control over their own natural resources, and their fundamental rights to the international deep seabed, and ensures international cooperation on the use of seas and their resources for peaceful purposes and for genuine interests of the nations."

This new law of the sea, of course, does not benefit U.S. and Western monopoly capital, the paper says. It recalls that at the 11th session of the third UN conference on the law of the sea, the United States made unreasonable complaints and proposed absurd amendments, but in spite of the U.S. objection, NHAN DAN adds, the overwhelming majority of member countries approved the convention and their approval was backed by many developed capitalist countries including France and Japan, to Washington's great isolation.

"The Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community which have worked closely with the developing countries in struggling for the genuine interests of each nation and for the interests of mankind as a whole, made a decisive contribution to the adoption of the new law," NHAN DAN continues.

"Imperialist forces can no longer act at will in the face of the resolute struggle of other nations for their genuine interests," the paper says.

CSO: 4220/228

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAMESE LEADERS GREET MONGOLIAN NATIONAL DAY

OWI01610 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 10 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi VNA 10 July--Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Truong Chinh, president of the Council of State; Pham Van Dong, chairman of the council of ministers; and Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the National Assembly, today extended their greetings to Mongolian leaders on the 61st National Day of Mongolia.

Writing to Yu Tsedenbal, general secretary of the people's revolutionary party of Mongolia and chairman of the presidium of the people's Great Hural; J. Bathmonh, chairman of the council of ministers; and B. Atlangerel, chairman of the Great People's Hural, they highlight the great achievements Mongolian people have made under the leadership of the P.R.P.M. and in close cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The Vietnamese leaders' message says: "These achievements and the principled foreign policy of peace of the Mongolian party and government have combined to enhance the prestige and position of the Mongolian People's Republic on the international arena and are thus contributive to strengthening the socialist community and the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress."

The message continues by saying that the Vietnamese people are very proud of Mongolia's success and find in it a great inspiration.

"We note with joy that the close friendship and cooperation between our two parties and peoples have constantly consolidated and developed on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and in the spirit of the Vietnam-Mongolia treaty of friendship and cooperation," the message says. It expresses gratitude for Mongolia's strong support and valuable assistance in both war against U.S. aggression and the current struggle against Beijing expansionism, and wishes the militant solidarity, friendship and close, all-sided cooperation between Vietnam and Mongolia ever lastingness.

CSO: 4220/228

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BEIJING'S ANTI-VIETNAM EFFORTS CHARACTERIZED

Hanoi CHINH NGHIA in Vietnamese 6 Jun 82 p 2

[Discussing Common Problems column]

[Excerpt] Question: "How does the war of destruction being waged by Beijing differ from the waged by the U.S. against the north in the past?"

Le Quang Loc
(Ha Son Binh)

Answer: The war of destruction waged by the U.S. in the past was carried out principally by the use of airplanes and warships to bomb and shell the north in hopes of intimidating our people and impeding their struggle to liberate the south and unify the homeland. Today, Beijing is waging a many-sided war of destruction against Vietnam -- militarily, economically, politically, ideologically, and culturally -- by means of many different forces and many insidious schemes. The many-sided war of destruction waged by the Chinese reactionaries is a part of their new strategy of opposing the revolutions of the three Indochinese countries and opposing the Soviet Union and the socialist community, with increasingly close cooperation of the U.S.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

'NHAN DAN' MARKS JAPAN CP FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

OW150829 Hanoi VNA in English 0729 GMT 15 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi VNA 15 July--NHAN DAN today on behalf of the working class and people of Vietnam warmly congratulates the Communist Party of Japan on its 60th anniversary.

The paper of the Communist Party of Vietnam says that since its foundation on 15 July 1922, the JCP has geared all its activities to the heroic struggle of the Japanese working class and to the international workers' movement and that as soon as it came into being it was faced with great trials.

"Over the past 37 years of legal activities the JCP has constantly tried to strengthen and multiply its ranks, and has gained important success," NHAN DAN notes.

It continues: "Holding aloft the banners of peace and national sovereignty, the JCP is resolutely opposed to the Japan-U.S. security treaty. Together with affiliated organizations it has been a vanguard in all the annual spring offensives for freedom, democracy, welfare and peace."

NHAN DAN goes on by saying that the JCP has always supported other nations' struggle for independence. "A militant solidarity," the paper says, "has long tied the parties, working class, and peoples of Vietnam and Japan in the struggle against the common enemy, U.S. imperialism." NHAN DAN recalls that during the U.S. aggression, the JCP and its affiliates always took the lead in the movement in support of Vietnam, and during the Chinese invasion in February 1979, the JCP immediately joined in the demand for a stop to this expansionist aggression.

Noting that the JCP and the Japanese working people are continuing support for Vietnam in national construction and defence, the paper says: "The Communist Party of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people highly appreciate the solidarity and support of the JCP and the Japanese working class as a very valuable encouragement.... The Vietnamese people wholeheartedly back the legitimate cause of the JCP and the Japanese working class. We wish the JCP greater achievements in struggling for interests of the working class for national independence, democracy, social progress and peace."

"May the friendship and solidarity between our parties, working class and peoples further consolidate and develop," the paper concludes.

CSO: 4220/228

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

'NHAN DAN' EDITORIAL GREETS MONGOLIAN NATIONAL DAY

OW110802 Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT 11 Jul 82

[Text] Hanoi VNA 11 July--In an editorial today devoted to Mongolia's 61st National Day, the paper NHAN DAN says: "The Mongolian people's victorious revolutionary struggle over the past 61 years is a vivid demonstration of Lenin's viewpoint that underdeveloped countries can advance directly to socialism without passing through the stage of capitalist development."

The paper says:

"From a feudal and backward country, Mongolia has become a socialist country with a strongly developing economy encompassing many modern branches, and an advanced culture and science. The Mongolian people's material and moral life has been constantly improved."

NHAN DAN extols the Mongolian people's achievements in the implementation of the 1981 plan and their initial promising results in the execution of the 1982 plan. It says:

"Mongolia's international prestige and status have been further enhanced. The Mongolian people have made active contributions to increasing the strength of the socialist community and to the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. The peace initiative, put forth by the 18th congress of the Mongolian people's revolutionary party, for signing a treaty of non-aggression and non-use of force in the relations of the states in the Asian and pacific region is an important contribution to preserving peace and security in the region and elsewhere in the world."

"On this joyful occasion," NHAN DAN says, "the Vietnamese people wish the fraternal Mongolian people under the clear sighted leadership of the M.P.R.P. headed by esteemed Comrade Yu Tsedenbal still greater achievements in the implementation of the resolutions of the 18th M.P.R.P. Congress."

CSO: 4220/228

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE--Hanoi VNA 6 July--A committee for solidarity and friendship with the Palestinian people, with Prof Dr Pham Khac Quang as president, was set up at a ceremony here today. Pham Khac Quang is presidium member of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with other peoples, the Vietnam committee for Afro-Asian people's solidarity, and the Vietnam fatherland front Central Committee. The new committee will organize mass activities to provide multi-form support to the just cause of the Palestinian people and other Arab nations, and to condemn crimes perpetrated against them by Israel Zionism, U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces. [Text] [W0091230 Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 6 Jul 82]

DELEGATION TO PDRY, MOZAMBIQUE--Hanoi VNA 8 July--A delegation of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with other peoples left here today for a friendship visit to the people's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the people's Republic of Mozambique, at the invitation of the Yemen-Vietnam Friendship Association and the Mozambique Committee for Solidarity and Friendship. The delegation is led by Ms Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, member of the presidium of the committee for solidarity and friendship with other peoples, member of the presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, and president of the Vietnam Women's Union. [Text] [W0091230 Hanoi VNA in English 1550 GMT 8 Jul 82]

GOLD STAR ORDER CONFERRED--Hanoi VNA 10 July--The Council of State has decided to confer the Gold Star Order--Vietnam's highest honour--on Yu Tsedenbal, general secretary of the Mongolian people's revolutionary party Central Committee and chairman of the presidium of the Mongolian people's Great Hural. The decision, signed by President of the Council of State Truong Chinh on 7 July, says that the Mongolian leader has made "outstanding contributions to consolidating and developing the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Mongolia." [Text] [OW101648 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 10 Jul 82]

TSEDENBAL CONGRATULATED ON SRV AWARD--Hanoi VNA 11 July--The paper NHAN DAN today frontpages its congratulations to Yunjaagiyn Tsedenbal, chairman of the presidium of the people's Great Hural, general secretary of the people's revolutionary party Central Committee, on his being decorated with the Gold Star Order, the highest Vietnamese distinction. Stressing that this is a new expression of the close solidarity between Vietnam and Mongolia. [Sentence as received] The paper praises President Tsedenbal's outstanding contributions

to consolidation and development of the friendship, militant solidarity and allround cooperation between the two countries. The paper goes on: "We highly value the great contributions of Mongolia to strengthening the socialist community with the Soviet Union as the mainstay, the militant solidarity and the devoted assistance accorded by the Mongolian party, government and people to our people's revolution is a noble expression of proletarian internationalism. The Mongolian People's Republic has constantly increased its close solidarity with the three Indochinese countries in the struggle against the common enemy--the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces." "We extend our warmest congratulations to Yu Tsedenbal on this joyful event which coincides with the celebration of the 61st anniversary of Mongolia's National Day," Nhan Dan concludes. [Text] [OW110809 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 11 Jul 82]

HANOI FRENCH CULTURE INSTITUTE--Hanoi VNA 12 July--An agreement was concluded here today for the transfer to Vietnam of the French Institute of Culture in Ho Chi Minh City. According to this agreement, which was signed by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Ha Van Lau and French Ambassador Yvan Bastouil, the institute is now called Institute for Cultural Exchanges with France and is placed under Vietnam's management for cultural, scientific and technological cooperation with France. [Text] [OW141038 Hanoi VNA in English 1532 GMT 12 Jul 82]

PAHR VISIT--Our Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a communique saying that, at the invitation of the SRV foreign minister, the foreign minister of the Republic of Austria, Mr Willibald Pahr, will pay an official visit to our country shortly. [Text] [BK121500 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Jul 82]

CSO: 4209/414

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BANKS HELP ENTERPRISES INVENTORY, MARKET GOODS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jun 82 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Banks in Many Provinces and Municipalities Help the Commercial Bases Inventory and Market Warehoused Goods"]

[Text] Fulfilling their function as monetary governors, the banks of many provinces and municipalities have, by means of professional activities, positively helped the commercial bases inventory their warehoused goods, especially those that are not selling well and, on that basis, to step up their marketing.

The central bank met with such relevant sectors as the Ministry of Home Trade, the State Price Commission, the Ministry of Finance, etc., to discuss measures for clearing up slow-selling warehoused goods and determining the amount of such goods, to approve extinctions of past-due debts owed by localities and corporations, and to determine why certain types of goods were not selling well in order to take appropriate steps. The banking sector sent 19 work teams, consisting of 90 cadres, to 12 provinces and municipalities in the north and 7 provinces and municipalities in the south to, along with the local banks, review the situation of turning over products to the state, and the circulation of goods and money in each area and, along with the local sectors and governmental administrations, specifically resolve each problem and type of goods, step up marketing activities, strengthen market management, and increase capability to collect cash.

Nearly all of the banks of the large provinces and municipalities, such as Hanoi, Hai Phong, Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Nam Ninh, Quang Ninh, etc., worked with the local commercial sectors carrying out economic analyses and determining the make-up of the warehoused goods, including a categorization of the goods that were not selling well because of the selling methods, prices, product quality, etc., in order to draft appropriate plans to sell them. In Hanoi, the sundry goods and metals corporations of the Commercial Service within a short period of time sold more than 900 bicycles, 4,000 tires, 11,200 bicycle chains, and a number of other slow-selling consumer goods.

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CSO: 4209/395

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

'NHAN DAN' URGES TAX COLLECTION

BK061636 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 15 Jun 82 p 2

[Article by B.C.N." Accelerate Collection of Agricultural 'Tax'"]

[Text] The collection of agricultural tax is a very important task which helps us fulfill the state norms for collecting and purchasing grain and the requirement of balancing budgets at all levels. All localities are required to achieve the agricultural tax collection targets and to the exercise necessary control and supervision in order to ensure adequate collection not only of this year's tax but also debts from previous years.

The problems in tax collection are normally found in the following areas:

First, the area to be taxed still falls short of the norm.

We should overcome this shortcoming by properly collecting all taxes in accordance with established policies. At the same time, we should pay all previous debts so as to contribute to resolving the country's common problems of grain supply and finance.

This is the responsibility of the administration at all levels, and especially at the grassroots level. The people's committees of provinces, cities, precincts and districts must mobilize a number of cadres to help village authorities implement the set policies and measures well. These cadres must be capable, good and responsible. Before going to villages, they must be well trained in working methods and experiences. Agencies at the central and regional levels that are charged with collecting taxes must have a body of sufficiently qualified cadres who can assume the duties of collecting taxes in the immediate future and subsequently implementing the new agricultural tax laws.

It will be a very busy time for collecting this year's agricultural taxes. The northern localities must harvest the 5th-month spring rice quickly and completely, pay the tax for this crop season, collect previous debts and fulfill their grain collection and purchase tasks. Although the southern provinces have completed the 1981-82 10th-month and winter-spring rice crops, they have fulfilled only 65 percent of the taxation plan. To fulfill the annual taxation plan, all localities must establish specific plans to collect taxes.

We must concentrate primarily on guiding the collection of recorded taxes. At the same time, we must direct the village authorities to develop base figures for their areas--either statistically surveyed or specified in the production plans of villages--in order to redetermine the taxation norms for each village, cooperative, production collective and family. In those villages where the tax records for 1982 have been established but are not accurate, they must be reconsidered and targeted, aiming at those households, units and collectives which have failed to list all their areas on hand.

Compared to the 1978 survey statistics, the area to be taxed is still short by millions of hectares. The taxable production volume has not been computed correctly. Article 5 of the agricultural taxation regulations stipulates that those pieces of land and ricefields on which multicropping has become a custom must be accounted for as taxable areas. A rather large area of such land and ricefields is still left unaccounted for tax purposes. In the nine Mekong Delta provinces alone, nearly 200,000 hectares have been planted with summer-fall rice for 5 or 6 years now but they have not been accounted as taxable.

Second, cases of tax exemption and reduction still prevail. In 1981, although the harvest was satisfactory in some provinces, their taxation was reduced by 19.4 percent of the target. In 1982, their taxation was further reduced by 18.7 percent of the target.

Third, the amount of unpaid tax is large. From 1976 to 1980, the total amount of unpaid tax nationwide was equivalent to 386,000 tons of rice. In 1981, rice taxation nationwide was "accumulated" to 67,000 tons.

In those villages where the planting of summer-fall rice has become a custom, the area planted with this crop must be accounted as taxable.

In those localities where tax reduction and exemption is widespread, the provincial people's committees must review the production and harvest situation to determine losses and the extent of tax reduction for each district. The district people's committees will do the same with regard to each village. The village people's committees will determine the extent of damages to each ricefield and, depending on the tax reduction norms assigned them, will establish tax reduction and exemption records for various households and collectives and then submit the records to the district people's committees for approval before tax reduction and exemption can be carried out. Only those ricefields actually hit by natural disasters (drought, flashfloods and insect damage over an entire area) will be taken into consideration for tax reduction and exemption purposes. All work done casually to suit one's own convenience must stop. For example: each hamlet establishes a committee to survey and inspect ricefields; receive statements on crop damage and requests for tax reduction and exemption; and set up its own record of tax reduction and exemption, or hold meetings to discuss tax reduction and exemption against the agricultural tax regulations.

After fulfilling the aforementioned tasks well, the provincial people's committees will redetermine tax targets and assign them to each district. The district authorities will assign tax targets to each village. Cadres should be mobilized in the villages in order to motivate the people to fulfill their grain obligations.

All households, cooperatives and production collectives must pay their agricultural taxes before they can sell rice. Party cadres and members must exemplarily fulfill their grain obligations in order to remain worthy of Uncle Ho's teaching: "Party members take the lead, villagers will follow suit."

Debts from previous years must be collected completely in accordance with the law in order to avoid further negativism. The village authorities must conduct inspections to determine the extent of debts, the number of debtors and the causes of accumulated debts. On this basis, they will classify debtors and take appropriate action to deal with each of them.

As for unpaid 1981 taxes, they must be collected and delivered promptly to the state granary. They will not be considered as debts.

CSO: 4209/415

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

KIEN GIANG NEW ECONOMIC ZONES--Kieng Giang Province to date have received more than 47,000 persons from Thai Binh, Binh Tri Thien and Ben Tre Provinces and Ho Chi Minh City for resettlement in various new economic zones. The province has built more than 25,000 square meters of living quarters, nurseries, schools and many other public welfare establishments for these people. The new settlers have built 17 state farms, 4 production cooperatives; embarked on agricultural production and expanded animal husbandry. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 3 Jul 82 BK]

CSO: 4209/414

AGRICULTURE

JOINT RESOLUTION ISSUED ON LABOR FOR MEKONG DELTA

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 10 Jun 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Allocating Labor to Serve Agricultural Development in the Mekong Delta"]

[Text] In the 1981-1985 period, the expansion of the division of labor and the redistribution and good utilization of labor throughout the nation is a requirement, and also a principal content, of economic-social plans. We must expand the distribution of labor and do a good job of using local labor in the sphere of the district, while also transferring a large number of workers from highly populated areas and cities to the sparsely populated districts to develop production, build up the new economic zones, and build up national defense.

The Mekong Delta region, with a vast agricultural land area -- of which unclaimed land still accounts for a large part -- requires the sending in of many additional workers to develop the potential of the land. Since the liberation, tens of thousands of workers have been sent there from the cities in the south and from the northern provinces, and have created 54 state farms and hundreds of new economic zones. There are such profitable state farms as Song Hau, U Minh, Minh Ha, Binh Son 3, etc., and such animated, pleasant new economic zones as Phu Van. However, the number of state farms and new economic zones that have stabilized their population and done a good job of organizing production and living conditions is not large. Even after many years about one-fourth of the state farms have still not determined their production plans and directions. Only about one-third of the people have contentedly integrated themselves with the state farms and new economic zones. One locality organized 12 state farms but had to dissolve 4! The good resolution of the problems of fixed habitation, organizing production, and stabilizing living conditions in the state farms and new economic zones in the Mekong Delta is an extremely urgent matter.

In March of this year the Secretariat of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions and the Minister of Agriculture issued a joint resolution launching a movement for workers and civil servants to compete in serving the mission of transforming and developing agriculture in the Mekong Delta so that it can become a key food-producing region of the nation. The joint resolution stressed such contents and implementation measures as propaganda and education

so that the workers and civil servants can clearly understand their responsibilities; drafting plans to select and organize workers appropriate to the production directions and missions; organizing a revolutionary action program; showing all-out concern for the living conditions of workers, civil servants, and their families; and building revolutionary forces and strengthening the organizations which serve as the movement's leadership nuclei.

The situation of the state farms and new economic zones in the Mekong Delta demonstrates the urgency of the implementation of the contents and measures set forth by the joint resolution. The actual situation in that region in recent years has allowed us to gain initial experience in resolving the most pressing problems.

In order to do a good job of allocating labor and distributing the population, first of all the localities sending people must carry out propaganda and education and prepare the people ideologically. They must choose the right people for the job and not hastily pass on that responsibility to the places receiving people. The receiving localities must meticulously prepare material conditions, mess facilities, and housing, and must educate the cadres and people so that they can understand that the people have come from afar to work with them in fulfilling economic, political, and national defense missions, and that therefore the local people and the new arrivals must love and assist one another.

The profitable state farms are all places which decided upon production plans, directions, and missions from the very beginning, and which have also done a good job of organizing living conditions and made investments that are complete and are balanced between production and living conditions (for every dong invested in production, a dong or at least half a dong must be invested in living conditions). With regard to the living conditions of the people in the state farms and new economic zones in the Mekong Delta, there are two crucial problems that must be resolved: fresh water and land and facilities so that the families can increase cultivation and stock raising. Some state farms in Long An have failed to retain workers because of a shortage of fresh water. The My Lam state farm lacks greens because it concentrates its workers and personnel in collective housing areas without facilities for increasing self-improvement production. The U Minh and An Hung state farms resolved their fresh water problems and assigned to each worker and civil servant household 1,000 square meters of land for self-improvement production, which caused the people to contentedly develop the state farms. While being concerned with the material living conditions it is also necessary to be concerned with the spiritual living conditions, such as schools for the children, culture and art, physical education and sports, etc. Nearly all of the working people and civil servants in the state farms were originally peasants, so they do not have working class consciousness and do not yet understand the role, position, and function of the trade union organization. The workers at the An Hung state farm requested the Kien Giang Trade Union Federation to send cadres to lecture on the working class and trade unions. That was a legitimate request which the trade union echelons in Kien Giang and the other localities must be concerned with meeting.

All workers and civil servants in the agricultural sector and the trade union echelons, in all spheres of work and in all areas of operation, must resolutely devote all of their intelligence and creative labor capability, overcome difficulties, and strive to fulfill the mission of agricultural development in the Mekong Delta.

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AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN VIETNAM ASSESSED

Paris LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE in French Jun 82 pp 22-23

[Article by Nguyen Duc Nhuan: "First Alterations in Vietnam in the Face of the Worsening Food Crisis"]

[Text] The Vietnam Communist Party, in the vanguard of the national liberation struggle movement, has for almost 3 decades pursued a spectacular agricultural development strategy. However, victory has not yet been won in the food battle, either in the north, after 20 years of socialism, nor in the fertile south, which was liberated 7 years ago. The modest goal set forth in the second 5-year plan (1976-1980) calling for the production of 21 million tons of foodstuffs in 1980 for 55 million inhabitants, or 280 kilograms per person, has been again pushed forward into the distant future.

Since 1975, the annual food deficit has come to about 6 million tons. The monthly ration of foodstuffs per person is limited to 10.5 kilograms. All of the objective reasons have been the subject of extensive reference: the aftermath of the American war, solidarity with Laos and Kampuchea, the situation of conflict with China, the vagaries of the weather. Since the fall of 1979, however, when the Sixth Plenum of the Central Committee was held, some party leaders have begun to question the efficiency of the methods put into use, which tend to amplify the disastrous effects of the war and natural limitations.

Of the farm production in the north, 75 percent comes from the "cooperative" sector, 5 percent from the state farms and 20 percent from private plots. These family plots, allocated on a temporary basis, account for 5 percent of the land in communes, and 3 percent of the area under cultivation. None of them exceeds a mere 400 square meters. In 1975, the 115 state farms, with an average area of 3,000 hectares each, almost all suffered losses, although they receive the bulk of the investments from the state in equipment, fertilizer and skilled labor. Launched in 1958, the cooperative movement has since 1965 incorporated 90 percent of the peasantry. Beginning in 1972, under the banner of the "scientific and technical revolution," the party expanded the cooperatives to the dimensions of the communes. The cooperative-commune itself is integrated in the district agroindustrial complex covering some 12,000 hectares and involving about 40,000 workers.

"Green Factories" in the North

There is still little mechanization. The scarcity of repair and maintenance stations reduces the operation of the fleet to 40 percent of its capacity. Other farm work is done with primitive equipment. The original aspect of these socialist "great green factories" lies in the application of scientific labor organization (OST). Each cooperative addresses itself to a given crop. The workers are distributed among 30 or 40 specialized brigades, each having 50 to 250 or even 400 members. Each task is broken down into multiple phases and scheduled tasks subject to precise production and compensation norms. Rice growing as such is governed by almost 400 norms, and the complex of farm activity by "a thousand norms and indices."² Compensation is based on "labor points," in accordance with the respective scales and norms: the range between a basic worker and the president of a cooperative is one to five.

The farm workers represent 65 percent of the active population, among whom 70 percent are women, 10 to 20 percent are children and elderly persons, and they are staffed and directed by male cadres representing 10 to 20 percent. To the extent of about 70 percent, the ablebodied manpower of rural origin is oriented toward the socialist industrialization sectors, and above all, toward national defense. However, a dense network of large and small water projects built by millions of workers covers the country. Giant rice plantations of 10 to 20 hectares in a single block contrast with the small plots of 0.8 to 1.5 hectares in other Asian countries, such as Taiwan or Japan, where the yields, however, are four times as great.

In fact, the development efforts are hindered by the existence of a "green bureaucracy" on all levels. For 2 decades, the party press has never ceased to complain of this bureaucracy. In fact, the OST system, by dividing up the workers, leads to widespread irresponsibility, absenteeism and indifference.

The small machine fleet is unpopular with the workers, because the district tractor drivers charge too much for their services. The cooperatives neglect the state rice plantations to engage in smaller lucrative activities--vegetable growing, craft work and hauling businesses. Good years and bad taken together, the collectivized production in the north has succeeded in 5 years' time in approaching the 1959 level, the last year of the system of small family operations, while the population proceeds to increase briskly by 3 percent per year, despite the losses of the war. Massive food aid from China, which itself is undersupplied in food, contributed 800,000 tons of foodstuffs per year during the period between 1965 and 1976.

According to official sources in Hanoi, the south continued from 1957 to 1963 to produce a substantial rice surplus for export. From 1971 to 1975, it produced from 400 kilograms of grain per inhabitant each year, as compared to 220 kilograms in the north, without having adequate tonnage of fish or pork. The party estimates that the Mekong Delta alone, with its 2.4 million hectares of land on which two harvests a year are gathered, could ensure self-sufficiency in food for the whole country.

In 1975, the working of the land was done 70 percent by machines, while the percentage for ginning and transportation was 95 percent. Thanks to this

solid material foundation, the complete collectivization of the south was to be "certainly speedier than it was in the north,"³ and according to the party goals, it was to be completed in 1980.

However, at the end of 1980, there were only 180 cooperatives and 30,000 mutual aid groups to be counted. In the south as in the north, the scientific organization of labor produced the same effects--absenteeism, indifference and Stakhanovite irresponsibility "causing yields and areas cultivated to decline."⁴

At the end of 1979, the open conflict with China aggravated an unprecedented food crisis. The Central Committee and its Politburo adopted a series of temporary provisions to reorganize the farm policy of the party. These measures, adopted one by one, pertained to taxes, farm prices and labor organization in the cooperatives and on the state farms. After taxes and compulsory deliveries, the producers could dispose freely of their surplus--if any. The control stations, which previously prevented the free circulation of goods in small quantities, were eliminated.

Signs of Hope

In the organization of cooperative labor, only the five major phases in the production process (selection and production of seed, plowing, water supply, fertilizing, and protection against plant diseases) are undertaken by the collective. For the rest (planting, cultivation, harvesting), the cooperative signs tenant farming contracts directly with the families. The surplus belongs to the families, who are free to organize their work as they wish. In the same spirit, farmland not being used by the collectives for lack of material facilities must be allocated to families on a fee basis. Where land to be cleared is concerned, individual peasants can exploit it for themselves for 3 to 5 years, paying neither taxes nor fees. After that, the land comes back to the collectives for management. There is no longer any limit on the animals a family can raise. After turning over a part of the product to the state at official prices, families can dispose of the balance freely.

If the party seems to have taken more precautions to bring the peasants in the south into the cooperatives since 1981, it is on the other hand stepping up the progress on the ambitious program for establishing 10,000 state rice farms (sovkhозes) in the Mekong Delta, to double the area under cultivation. The labor force is being brought en masse from the poor and overpopulated central provinces.

The other great hope has been invested in the exploitation methods tested under the administration of the CEMA countries. The 1981-1985 plan calls for their application on 50,000 hectares of coffee plantings, hundreds of thousands of hectares planted to rubber, tea, fruits and vegetables, using giant processing plants with a view to the export of these products to Eastern Europe and Siberia.

The results of the improvements made to an agricultural policy which had remained unchanged for 25 years are still limited. Following good harvests in 1981, the food situation in the rural sector is less alarming, but the slight surplus serves only to relieve the dramatic shortages in the rural areas and is not yet affecting the urban centers, where rations remain extremely low (10.5 kilograms of foodstuffs per person per month). In the south, production showed an increase for the first time of 6 percent as of the end of 1980. The Mekong Delta alone supplied 5 tons of paddy rice, more than half of the country's production. The state, by issuing paper money such as to triple purchasing prices, was able to collect 1.2 million tons, exactly twice the 1979 quantity. Thus it nurtured insane inflation (between 200 and 300 percent per year) in the prices of consumer goods, harshly penalizing its 3.5 million employees, whose wages, unchanged for 20 years, it has just doubled.

However, the agricultural sector of the country is not without major national assets (abundance of fertile land and favorable weather conditions in the south). The small peasantry, traditionally characterized by solidarity, industry and skill, needs only relative freedom to organize and produce better. But wouldn't even very limited autonomy pose the threat of challenging the absolute power of the party?

FOOTNOTES

1. In 1980, for its 55 million inhabitants, Vietnam had 7 million hectares of land under cultivation, including 4.6 million in the south. To this must be added 3.5 million hectares of arable land in the south and 5 million hectares of land for industrial crops on the high central plateaus. See "The Great Farm Regions of Vietnam," LE COURRIER DU VIETNAM, Hanoi, March 1977, pp 12-13.
2. General Giap, "Basic Tasks of the Scientific and Technical Revolution in Agriculture," Hanoi, 1979, p 69; "Vietnamese Studies," Hanoi, No 51, p 126 et seq; and "The Revolution in Nam-Hong Village," Hanoi, 1975, p 69.
3. TAPCHI CONGSAN (Communist Review), Hanoi, No 2, 1978, p 21.
4. Report submitted to the National Assembly by Vo Tong Xuan, agronomer, deputy from the south, Hanoi, July 1981.

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AGRICULTURE

PROBLEMS OF LABOR IN MEKONG DELTA DISCUSSED

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 10 Jun 82 pp 2,5

[Article by Diep Phong Nha: "Investigation on the Allocation and Receiving of Labor and the Stabilization of Living Conditions"]

[Text] Statistics worthy of thought!

During the past 6 years (1976-1981), 9 Mekong Delta provinces have organized the receiving of tens of thousands of families and hundreds of thousands of workers from the highly populated northern provinces to open up new areas and achieve production, cultural political, and security-national defense development in the new economic zones. But because of inadequate attention by the central and local sectors and echelons to leading and guiding production, stabilizing living conditions, and receiving settlers, the results have fallen short of the requirements. A large number of people and workers were sent but the number remaining to produce and live in the new economic zones is very low -- 50 percent in some units. In one province, only 30 percent remain.

At the Minh Ha state farm (in the lower U Minh area, Minh Hai Province), between 1976 and 1979 as many as 80 families left the area. Of those families, 30 left on their own accord, without removing themselves from the population register, and 50 others requested permission to transfer to earn a living. Those families amount to nearly 50 percent of the families originally in the state farm. In a 5-year period (1976-1980) Kien Giang Province received workers from the provinces of Thai Binh, Binh Tri Thien, and Ben Tre, and Ho Chi Minh City, and sent people from within the province to earn a living in the new economic zones. A total of 4,600 households -- consisting of 37,500 people and 26,000 workers -- were involved. (Half of them were workers from outside the province). At present, less than 7,000 people -- including 3,500 workers -- remain. In other words, nearly 80 percent of those people have left the new economic zones.

Such population organization and management and labor management have greatly affected production. During the past 5 years the Mekong Delta area has promoted land reclamation and restoration. The results with regard to the reclaimed area were very great and very encouraging. But in actuality, the land brought into production by the provinces and state farms amounts to only 60 percent of the reclaimed area. The rest of the land has gone unused and has become overgrown. For example, during the past 5 years Kien Giang province

has cleared and reclaimed about 52,000 hectares, but only about 14,000 hectares -- 26 percent of the total reclaimed area -- have been brought into use. In the state farms, the ratio between the utilized area and the reclaimed area is not very great, but in comparison to the planned area the land area now being used to produce products is still very small.

Another matter worthy of attention is the serious imbalance between labor and land and among the workers distributed in the sectors and trades, which results in labor productivity and the number of agricultural work days in the Mekong Delta being very low, especially in the new economic zones. The average number of agricultural work days in the Mekong Delta region is about 100 per year. In Tien Giang the average is about 120 work days a year. In the two provinces with the most agricultural land -- Minh Hai and Kien Giang (with more than 400,000 hectares)--the average number of work days is even lower: 80 to 100 per year.

The main reason for that situation is that the guidance the sectors and echelons, especially the people's committees, the new economic zone committees, and the agricultural services of the above-mentioned provinces have not yet paid adequate attention to production and to organizing and stabilizing the living conditions of the settlers in the new economic zones. During the past several years emphasis has been on width (developing and clearing land) and little attention has been paid to depth. Investment has not been concentrated in creating good models. Except for a few profitable state farms, the new economic units have suffered losses. In 1979-1980 the Minh Ha state farm in Minh Hai Province had a deficit of nearly 400,000 dong. A number of state farms (such as the Dong Hai state farm in Minh Hai) did not establish correct production directions at the beginning, so after a few years of unsuccessful operations they had to reorient their production directions. The failure of production to attain the plan and the deficits have greatly affected the lives of the workers. Salaries have increased slowly and there have been no bonuses. Furthermore, the essentials (vegetables, salt, soap, and cloth) are very expensive. A number of state farms (such as the My Lam state farm in Kien Giang) are confused and passively await approval of their over-all plans, and even after 5 years have not stabilized the residential areas. The mess area and living area of the workers in that state farm are decrepit, muddy, and dirty, especially the workers' family housing area (beside the mess hall and the state farm office). Everyone who visits the state farm worries about their living conditions! Each household lives in a house roofed with thatch and oil paper. Every time there is a heavy rain "water enters the house." Furthermore, none of the families can grow vegetables because they have not been allocated land. All fish paste, salt, and vegetables from merchants who bring them to the state farm.

If the material living conditions are difficult, the spiritual living conditions are even more deficient. Few units have libraries. Radio broadcasts and newspapers are irregular. In general, publications do not reach the workers. Loudspeaker systems are dependent on electricity. Electricity is related to gasoline, oil, etc., which are in increasingly short supply. Therefore, broadcasts and loudspeaker transmissions also interrupted! As for culture-drama performances and film showings, there were none for 3 or 4 years.

Schools, health clinics, etc., in the new economic zones (in both the state farms and the cooperatives) exist in name only. Most of the places lack classrooms, teachers, desks and chairs, school supplies, paper, etc. Nearly all of the day-care centers and nursery schools are temporary. In brief, only a few places have been able to organize stable, meticulous living conditions worthy of being categorized as "model," so serve as a basis for propaganda to encourage people to go to develop new economic zones.

Deficiencies at the two ends: sending and receiving:

Places which send people are often hasty and irresponsible in organizing and selecting workers. They have not yet paid adequate attention to quality and the ratio of workers among the sectors and trades, in accordance with the stipulations of the central level, but have only been concerned with the number of workers, in order to fulfill their population distribution plans. Furthermore, of the workers sent to new economic zones only ordinary workers are in adequate supply and there is a shortage of management and medical cadres, doctors, and teachers, and especially scientific-technical cadres, which creates many difficulties in production and life. Localities sending people have not yet formed close contacts with the places receiving them, there is often failure to prepare the area, housing, travel facilities, household items, etc., before the people arrive. Therefore, when the people arrive at their new home they encounter difficulties right away in their living conditions (food and housing), so they easily become discouraged and discontent and lose confidence. Furthermore, in some places the local administration is not concerned with helping out. Some localities even cause a loss of solidarity and competition for land. Some localities create difficulties in such administrative procedures as registering people on the population registers. At the Minh Ha state farm in Minh Hai Province, some people from Ha Nam Ninh Province were sent to the state farm in December 1981 but still have not been placed on the population register of Tran Van Thoi District, although the state farm has sent cadres to the district many times at considerable expense!

Lessons learned in the new economic zones:

The first lesson was regarding the ideological task. It is necessary to carry out deep and broad propaganda and ideological education among the masses -- both the cadres and the people -- in places where people are sent and in the places which receive them. We must enable everyone to fully understand the party's line and policy regarding the distribution of labor throughout the nation. They not only have significance with regard to economic development but also have political-social and security-national defense significance.

The second lesson was that it is necessary to carefully investigate the soil chemistry of each area in order to determine the production direction for each state farm or state farm cluster. Ambiguous production directions and unprofitable operations waste money, materiel, and labor, and adversely affect the confidence of the masses.

The production direction must be regarded as a major objective which determines the prosperity or bankruptcy of each state farm or state farm cluster.

The third lesson: both the sending places and the receiving places must make good preparations (prepare the area, houses, travel facilities, and household items for each family). Only thereby can the people's living conditions be stabilized at an early date and a good impression be created for the new arrivals.

The fourth lesson: both the central level and the local level must concentrate investment, consolidate a number of new economic zones and state farms, and create "models" which have persuasive force in the movement to send people to develop new economic zones. On the basis of such "models" regarding each aspect (living conditions or production) or all-round models, each locality must carry out a recapitulation and gain experience in order to expand their scope. Only thereby can we attract people to develop new home areas.

Some recommendations:

-- The state should carry out studies so that the state farms growing rice can meet their own grain needs in order to avoid the waste of money and fuel in "transporting paddy away and bringing husked rice back," as is done at present. That is the desire of the people who produce rice and the grain consumers in the new economic zones in the Mekong Delta.

-- The education and public health sectors and the Mothers and Children Protection Committees of the provinces and districts of the Mekong Delta should be more concerned with, and take steps to assist the new economic units in building, schools, day-care centers, and public health facilities to ensure the right to education of all children of cadres and workers, and the right to medical care of all people who come to develop the new economic zones.

-- The approval of the over-all plans of the state farms takes too much time! The over-all plans of most of the state farms established since 1976 have not yet been approved, so they have encountered many difficulties in the supplying of capital construction funds and the stabilization of the residential areas, which has exerted a great influence on the units' production and organization of living conditions.

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AGRICULTURE

'NHAN DAN' EDITORIAL ON 5TH-MONTH RICE CROP

BK061455 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Jul 82

[Nhan Dan 6 July editorial: "Promptly Collect and Purchase the 5th-Month Spring Grain"]

[Text] This year's 5th-month spring rice crop is a bumper one. It yielded the highest productivity and output compared with the previous crops. Peasants in localities have enthusiastically carried out their grain obligation task more quickly than in previous years. As of late June, the southern provinces had delivered grain to state granaries amounting to more than 91 percent of their grain obligation for the 1981 10th-month crop and the 1982 5th-month spring crop. Tien Giang, Cuu Long, Dong Thap and An Giang Provinces took the lead in this task.

Northern provinces have paid about 91 percent of their agricultural taxes and have delivered to state granaries almost 80 percent of their 5th-month spring grain obligation plan norm or 70,000 tons more than the same period last years. Seven provinces, 100 districts and 2,654 cooperatives have fulfilled their grain obligation plan norms for the 5th-month spring crop. Nghe Tinh Province took the lead in fulfilling its grain obligation task.

Various provinces in the Bac Bo Delta and the former fourth zone such as Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Hung and Thanh Hoa have made great efforts in overfulfilling their set plan norms.

Developing their achievements, localities must strive to fulfill their grain obligation for the 5th-month spring crop quickly. Provinces in the delta must strive to pay their agricultural taxes completely and sell their products at agreed upon prices. The pace of grain collection and purchase in a number of midlands and mountainous provinces has been slow. This is due to slow harvesting and poor organizational and supervisory tasks which cannot overcome objective difficulties in the collection and purchase of grain. The present task for all provinces, districts and villages is to continue carrying out various specified measures to fulfill and overfulfill the grain obligation. They must accelerate tasks concerning the collection and purchase of grain for the set quota and above the set quota with emphasis on the collection of agricultural taxes, debts and payments of the two-way contract system.

Localities which have fulfilled their set quotas must concentrate efforts on buying grain above quotas. The grain sector is responsible for coordinating with sectors concerned in controlling materials and goods for distribution to various localities. They must carry out the trade barter system with cooperatives and peasants by applying appropriate methods in accordance with the principles set by the state, especially those concerning value and percentage of barter prices.

Tasks concerning the management of the market and grain must be strengthened to eliminate and scrupulously punish all acts involving speculation in order to enable the grain sector to carry out the tasks concerning collection and purchase uniformly and at the same time enable the state to control grain and goods effectively.

Accelerating the pace of collection and purchase of grain and promptly fulfilling the grain obligation task for the 5th-month spring crop are important and immediate tasks for various localities, through which they can surge forward to fulfill this year grain obligation plan norms.

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AGRICULTURE

'NHAN DAN' ON BUMPER SPRING PADDY CROP IN BAC BO

BK141425 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Jun 82 p 1

[Text] According to initial reports from the provinces of the Bac Bo Delta and former zone 4, this year the local peasants have harvested a bumper fifth-month spring paddy crop. The average paddy output in many of these provinces is higher than that of the previous year. Some have reached or even exceeded the output of the most successful fifth-month spring crop. Thai Binh Province has achieved 36 quintals per hectare, bringing its paddy output to 270,000 tons, an increase of 25,000 tons over the 1981 fifth-month spring crop. Hai Hung Province has achieved 34.12 quintals per hectare, bringing its paddy output to 390,000 tons--the highest output ever recorded by the province--and accounting for an increase of 27,000 tons over 1981. Ha Nam Ninh Province has achieved 29.7 quintals of paddy per hectare, an increase of 56,000 tons; Ha Son Binh Province, 24 quintals, an increase of 0.5 quintal per hectare and an increase of 10,000 tons; Thanh Hoa Province, 23 quintals per hectare, an increase of nearly 10,000 tons of paddy; Nghe Tinh Province, 20.8 quintals, an increase of 22,000 tons; and Binh Tri Thien Province, 20.5 quintals, an increase of 32,000 tons. Haiphong suburbs have had four bumper crops in a row, with this year's fifth-month spring crop achieving 28 quintals per hectare--the highest ever, recording an increase of 12,000 tons. Hanoi suburbs have achieved 26.5 quintals per hectare, an increase of 0.3 quintal over the previous crop. The paddy output of Vinh Phu and Ha Bac Provinces is lower than planned norms. A number of districts have achieved more than 40 quintals per hectare. They are Hai Hau and Xuan Thuy (Ha Nam Ninh Province), Dong Hung and Kien Xuong Districts (Thai Binh Province) and My Van District (Hay Hung Province). Seventy-six co-operatives in Thai Binh Province have achieved more than 40 quintals per hectare; 13 of them have achieved 40-50 quintals. The Nugyen Xa and Nam Binh cooperatives have achieved the highest output. Ten cooperatives in Hai Hung Province have reached more than 50 quintals per hectare.

The increase in paddy output in these provinces is due to the fact that the local peasants used good rice varieties, that most of the areas were planted at the most appropriate time and that a remarkable amount of manure and nitrogenous fertilizer was applied to the ricefields. In some provinces, as much as 100-110 kg of nitrogenous fertilizer were applied to each hectare. This is thanks to the fact that these provinces have adopted the system of two-way exchange of goods and directly imported or been supplied with nitrogenous fertilizer under the state plan. The application of the product-based contract system to workers,

the development of existing advantages and the correction of shortcomings have inspired cooperative members, prompting them to restore the practice of carrying out intensive cultivation. After harvesting a good paddy crop, the provinces are promptly taking measures to collect agricultural tax quickly and completely and purchase paddy beyond tax quotas. They have also urged peasants to increase the herds of hogs and prepare for the 10th-month crop.

However, grain production in these provinces is not uniform. The winter subsidiary crop production has decreased considerably in terms of cultivated areas and output. This is partly because the price policy and the policy on collecting tax from subsidiary crops are irrational and partly because the product-based contracted system has not been applied broadly and the food processing work is still inadequate. Moreover, cooperative members are unwilling to develop the cultivation of subsidiary crops, preferring to sue materials for the intensive cultivation of paddy. Meanwhile, the provincial authorities are not strict in their leadership of the cultivation of subsidiary crops. Because of the decrease in the subsidiary crop output, the total grain output converted to paddy equivalent in some provinces has increased only slightly in spite of the increase in paddy output; in others, it is equal to or less than that of 1981.

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AGRICULTURE

'NHAN DAN' ARTICLE ON MEKONG DELTA PADDY OUTPUT

BK131212 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Jun 82 pp 3, 4

[Article by Nguyen Van Luat, M.S., director of the Mekong Delta Agricultural Technology Center: "The Problem of Increasing Paddy Output in the Mekong Delta"]

[Text] Today as well as in the future, in our endeavor to increase paddy output in the Mekong Delta steadily and with good economic results, two problems related to agricultural ecology have arisen attracting the attention of scientists as well as party committee echelons and administrative bodies at all levels. These problems are how to exploit and utilize most rationally the existing capabilities, and on this basis, how to make ricefields part of a complete ecological system to be built and developed along the line of combining agriculture with forestry and fishery in order to devise measures to increase paddy output rapidly.

In order to increase paddy output in the Mekong Delta, along with increasing investments comprehensively and uniformly, it is very important to adopt measures to utilize the existing material and technical bases rationally in both the short and long terms. Such measures are not only appropriate under the current circumstances, but also necessary to avoid waste. Using the peasants' experience in production together with the results of scientific research at home and abroad constitutes a correct method for fully detecting and understanding the factors that prevent rice output increases owing to "irregularities" in the production process. The most effective way to rapidly introduce technical progress into production in the Mekong Delta is for scientific and technical cadres, together with peasants and agricultural workers, to grow rice on an experimental basis in order to set up economic-technical models for each specific condition. I would like to point out here some opinions on the rational use of the existing capabilities for increasing paddy output in the Mekong Delta through suitable cultivation methods.

New Strains and Local Strains

Since Liberation Day, the use of new rice strains for cultivation on ever-expanding areas has contributed to increasing paddy output under different conditions in localities having alkaline, saline or alluvial soil and those susceptible to damage by brown leafhoppers, rice blast, silver leaf disease

and so forth. Many new rice strains such as NN3A, NN6A, NN7A, NN8A, NN2B, NN4B and so forth have been selected by scientific institutes for cultivation. Crossbreeding between new and local strains has not yet been widely practiced; and as the new strains are imported ones, their use on expanded areas is limited by inadequate conditions for intensive cultivation and by their inferiority adaptability compared to local strains. Three-fourths of the area cultivated annually in the Mekong Delta are, therefore, still planted in the local strains. Attention has been given to selecting good local strains and expanding the areas in which they are cultivated. For example, used for the main 10th-month rice planting are the Ba Thiet and Chum Ruot Lua strains in Hau Giang; the Than Nong Do and Hoa Binh strains in Minh Hai; the Trai May Cut, Nang Tay Dum Nang, Dum Hat To and other strains in Kien Giang; and so forth. A local strain that produces long-stemmed rice plants also can give a fairly good yield on a large area. Using this strain, An Bien District in the U Minh Thuong region scored in some years a per-hectare yield of 27-28 quintals on tens of thousands of hectares of 10th-month rice. However, compared to the new strains, the local strains have not been given proper attention even though once selected and used, they may easily boost paddy yield by 10-20 percent without requiring additional investments.

In selecting either new or local rice strains for cultivation, special attention must be given to the local cultivating conditions; and it is necessary to avoid mistakes arising from general misconceptions, subjectivism or sheer ignorance. The Ministry of Agriculture has, as an initial step, defined five sets of strains for use in the five crop seasons--the winter-spring, summer-fall, early 10th-month, middle 10th-month and main or late 10th-month crop seasons.

Crop Seasons

With the introduction of new, short-term rice strains, the areas planted with the winter-spring and summer-fall rice have increased markedly. Of the present rice area, about 20 percent is planted in winter-spring rice; about 20 percent, summer-fall rice; and the remainder, 10th-month rice. The weather conditions during the winter-spring crop season are most favorable, with the radiation of heat (450-470 calories per square centimeter a day) about 20-50 calories greater than that during the 10th-month crop season and about 50-100 calories greater than that during the summer-fall crop season. The winter-spring rice crop gives the highest yield, averaging 29-39 quintals per hectare; and its output accounts for about 30 percent of the region's total production volume of over 5 million tons. Water is the main limitation of the winter-spring crop. Based on actual demands for water supply, it is calculated that this region faces a monthly water shortage of over 210 millimeters, 50-60 millimeters more than in the Red River Delta. By making full use of existing facilities and improving irrigation, it is possible to increase both the cultivated area and yield steadily, thus boosting the volume of production.

The 10th-month rice crop is planted on the largest area and it yields the largest output, accounting for more than 50 percent of the annual rice output. Many large areas are cultivated with only one 10th-month rice crop. A wide variety of local strains is featured in the 10th-month rice crop; and new strains such as NN2B, NN3B and others can only be used in those ricefields where waterlogging

in the middle of the crop season can be effectively controlled. The methods for planting the 10th-month rice are very diverse--direct or indirect planting, transplanting once, twice or sometimes, thrice, and planting floating or wet rice depending on the conditions of waterlogging. By making full use of existing facilities and improving irrigation, we can use strains that bear grains faster and grow shorter stems to produce a higher output. This is possible because of the higher rate of multicropping and the use of high-yield strains. As compared with the pre-liberation period, the area planted with floating rice and twice-transplanted rice has decreased markedly, thus contributing to increasing output.

The summer-fall rice crop gives an output that accounts for 17-18 percent of the total annual paddy output. Some localities have markedly increased the paddy output by replacing one long-term 10th-month rice crops with two shorter crops--the summer-fall rice crop that ends at the close August to avoid the high tide of September, followed by another rice crop in October. However, the summer-fall rice crop often encounters difficulties arising from natural calamities, harmful insects and diseases, shortage of drying and storage spaces, and so forth. If we increase the area planted with summer-fall rice in areas where the conditions do not permit, both yield and output will drop in terms of productivity and volume. The conditions inducive to the growth of summer-fall rice consist of a rate of salinity that does not exceed 4 grams per liter of water, the availability of additional sources of water to counter drought and a good drainage system.

The possibility of practicing double cropping in one-crop ricefields still remains great. Nevertheless, careful calculations must be made to avoid a situation in which three crops produce less than two or two crops less than one.

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Cultivation Schedules

Unlike in the Red River Delta where the temperature is low and daylight hours are short, there are no specific rice cultivation schedules in the Mekong Delta and planting can be done throughout the year. As a result of this, we can be flexible in determining an appropriate cultivation schedule for each rice planting on the basis of the actual conditions so as to make full use of natural advantages, avoid harmful insects and diseases, or space out the crop seasons. Factors concerning water and soil often limit the choice for appropriate cultivation schedules. Even in a narrow stretch of land, water and soil conditions may differ widely, making it impossible to arrive at a generally good cultivation schedule.

However, as far as meteorological ecology and the requirements for crop rotation and multicropping are concerned, we can still develop general guidelines for selecting the best seasonal periods. Sunlight determines rice yield from the budding to the blossoming and post-blossoming stages of the rice plants. In the Mekong Delta, by completing the planting of the winter-spring rice in April, we can make good use of the highest energy provided by the radiation of sunlight--about 480 calories per square centimeter a day--at a time when the rice plants are growing ears and forming grains; thus making it possible to achieve the highest yield in the entire country. The main or late 10th-month rice crop season usually ends in January. The radiation of heat energy during the rice plants' blossoming and graining stages is fairly strong--close to 400 calories per square centimeter a day--that is, 20-30 calories more than in the Red River Delta. With higher heat energy and freedom from gales and storms, long-stemmed rice strains here can easily yield 4-4.5 tons per hectare--higher than in the Red River Delta. The summer-fall rice crop, which ends in August, often encounters the biggest difficulties. The early 10th-month rice crop ends in September or October and the middle 10th-month rice crop is harvested in November or December. These crops can be followed by a subsidiary food crop. The difficulty encountered in following crop cultivation schedules is that, since water conditions differ each year and in each area (depending on rains and floods), it is necessary to ensure that the rice will blossom and ripen at the desired safe periods. Our peasants, with ample experience in selecting rice strains and applying cultivation techniques, can overcome difficulties and follow the cultivation schedules.

Other Cultivation Methods

While using an appropriate seed allocation pattern in accordance with a rational crop season layout, we often encounter difficulties arising from drought, alkalinity and salinity at the beginning of the crop season. Investments made at this stage will have a more favorable impact on both yield and output than at the later stages of the rice production process. Of the total amount of man-days spent on a hectare (50-100 man-days), as much as 50 percent (20-40 man-days) is used for preparing ricefields and for sowing and transplanting activities; and only 5-10 man-days are reserved for tending operations, including irrigation. The remaining 20-30 man-days are spent in harvesting and post-harvesting activities. Thus, the first production stage here is more important than that in the Red River Delta as far as output is concerned, because here, less efforts are required for tending plants and the conditions for production are more complex.

The "water is first priority" experience is still applicable to the Mekong Delta. Irrational transformation of the water system will result in strong alkalinization of the soil. For instance, the building of a dam that does not have sufficient sluices will prevent useful tidal actions which help reduce alkalinity with the flow of brackish water.... Here, the practice of using organic fertilizers, especially stable manure, has generally not been established; but the natural conditions are favorable for increasing the percentage of crops of the bean family such as soybeans planted together with rice on a rotation basis, and for planting forestry and industrial crops. The soil is prepared by various methods that involve efforts ranging from minimal (weeding only) to maximal, including the laying of lattice work foundation and topsoil, etc.

By reviewing the aforementioned experiences, carrying out research and experimentation, and improving theoretical knowledge, we will be able to develop many rational cultivation methods that can be widely applied.

Efforts to increase paddy output constantly must be closely linked with efforts to preserve, transform and enrich the soil. To do this we must transform the entire scene or ecology of a large area, including its forests, ricefields, ponds and lakes, canals and ditches, ricefield embankments, population centers and so forth. Only in this way will we be able to create a comprehensive environment consistent with the laws of nature and conducive to the development of crops and livestock. The agricultural ecology of the Mekong Delta is a cyclic ricefield ecology that is synchronized with the climatic conditions in the scene mentioned above.

After shifting from a sea ecology to a forest ecology in accordance with the laws of nature, man's production activities transformed the forest ecology into a ricefield ecology or in other words, the natural ecology into a man-made ecology that has a greater capacity for production and a higher economic value. However, wanton destruction of forests has created serious consequences, especially since the time when the U.S. aggressors used toxic chemicals to destroy many large forests.

Wild animals have rapidly dwindled in number, quality and composition. As forests disappear, so do sources of water; and this increases the incidence of forest fires. The decrease in sources of water and food offered by forests leads to a drop in the number of shrimps and fish. The serious alkalinization of the soil goes together with the harmful development process described above. In many areas, mangrove forests were destroyed to make way for luxuriant ricefields; but after a period of time, the process of alkalinization took hold and the rice plants either weakened or could not grow. The phenomenon of "disappearance" is not threatening 600,000 hectares in the Dong Thap Muoi area as brought, which is triggered by serious shortages of water, and the alkalinization of the soil, which is brought about by deep infiltration of air into the alkaline stratum, force ricefields into a state of "disappearance." The relationships between forests, water sources and resources of shrimps, fish and fowl are organic and cause-and-effect relationships of a very close nature.

Thus, it can be said that agricultural lands in the Mekong Delta originate from forests. Therefore, efforts to increase paddy output in particular and agricultural output in general cannot be disassociated from efforts to restore the function of creating a layer of compost to preserve and enrich the soil, and the secondary function of protecting the soil's capacity for production by shielding it from the winds and preventing water evaporation to maintain moisture. By so doing, we will also develop the special advantages of the Mekong Delta in combining agriculture with forestry and fishery. The degree of such a combination varies depending on whether the land is for forestry, forestry-agricultural or agricultural-forestry purposes; but all localities effect or need this combination. According to a report prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture, if trees are grown along roadsides and ditch embankments, we will have 100-150 trees on a hectare and more than 3 million hectares can accommodate more than 400 million trees. Some families of peasants in the Dong

Thap Muoi area, when faced with serious alkalinization of their embankments to contain water, raised fish and planted vegetables and trees and alkali-resistant rice. After a few years, when the soil became free of alkali, they not only increased the rice output but also has fish and tens of tons of vegetables, beans and fruits for sale. Such models, which display a good combination of agriculture with forestry and fishery to varying degrees, can be found everywhere, though in no great number. Investigating and discovering these models and guiding their development, as experience in guiding the production of subsidiary food crops has shown, is a work method that promises quick results. On the basis of heightening the workers' responsibility toward the end-products, the broad application of those models in production collectives, cooperatives, state farms and large areas must conform with a plan designed to promote the advance toward large-scale socialist production and encompass problems relating to socio-ecology in accordance with the rural characteristics of the Mekong Delta.

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AGRICULTURE

HANOI REVIEWS AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES OVER PAST 10 DAYS

BK111449 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 11 Jul 82

[Review of agricultural activities over the past 10 days]

[Summary] To date, all localities throughout the country have completed the harvest of the 5th month-spring rice, with the northern provinces attaining an average yield of 2.5 tons per hectare and the southern provinces more than 3.2 tons per hectare. Encouraged by the success of the 5th month-spring crop season, all localities throughout the country are now concentrating on the cultivation of the 10th-month rice.

"According to the Ministry of Agriculture, as of early July, all localities throughout the country had planted 10th-month rice on more than 800,000 hectares or 25 percent of the planned acreage. Last week in the south, there was ample rainfall conducive to the cultivation of the 10th-month rice. To date, the southern provinces have planted this rice on 600,000 hectares, fulfilling 30 percent of the planned norm and producing an increase of some 100,000 hectares over the same last year."

To date, 10th-month rice has been planted on more than 80 percent of the planned acreage by the provinces in the central highlands, on almost 100 percent of the planned acreage by Dong Thap, an Giang and Gia Lai-cong Tum Provinces, and on only 10 to 20 percent of the planned acreage by the provinces in the central coastal eastern Nam Bo regions.

"Because the harvest of the 5th month-spring rice was carried out behind schedule and due to the presence of drought at the beginning of the crop season, the cultivation of the 10th-month rice this year has started at a date later than last year. So far, some 50,000 hectares of 10th-month rice seedlings still have not been transplanted due to the unavailability of ricefields while more than 190,000 hectares of ricefields and rice seedlings have been affected by drought."

Along with combating drought, all localities have tried to secure water for soil preparation. Due to the lack of draft animals, soil preparation has not yet been finished on as many as 150,000 hectares. Although it is now the best seasonal period for 10th-month rice, the cultivation of this rice is still very slow. "To date, the northern provinces have planted this rice on more than 200,000 hectares."

Meanwhile, all localities throughout the country have concluded the cultivation of the summer-fall rice, fulfilling more than 90 percent of the planned norm. This year, the area of summer-fall rice in the southern provinces has expanded by 50,000 hectares. The provinces that have fulfilled or overfulfilled their summer-fall rice cultivation norms are Guu Long, An Giang, Dong Nai, Dong Thap and Hau Giang. In the meantime, the provinces that have fulfilled their respective summer-fall rice cultivation norms with a low percentage are Minh Hai, 27.7 percent; Quang Nam-danang, more than 40 percent; and Kien Giang, over 60 percent.

"In addition to rice, all localities have actively planted summer-fall subsidiary and industrial crops. To date, these crops have been planted on 350,000 hectares throughout the country. This figure, which shows an increase over the same period last, includes more than 200,000 hectares of subsidiary crops."

In general, all norms for summer-fall subsidiary crops have not been fulfilled, except for soybeans which have been planted on more than 8,000 hectares, almost doubling the area planted with this crop in the previous summer-fall crop season.

According to the general hydrometeorological department, next week there will be ample rainfall conducive to the cultivation of the 10th-month rice. It is, therefore, necessary for the northern provinces to concentrate on irrigation work while accelerating soil preparation and the cultivation of early 10th-month rice. In the south, efforts should be made to care for the summer-fall rice along with accelerating the cultivation of the 10th-month rice and making preparations for the forthcoming winter-spring crop season.

CSO: 4209/414

AGRICULTURE

EDITORIAL DEALS WITH VEGETABLE SHORTAGE IN PREHARVEST PERIOD

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 14 May 82 p 1

Editorial: "Draw Experiences from the Recent Vegetable Cultivation Season, Adequately Prepare to Eliminate Difficulties in the Next Summer-Fall Vegetable Preharvest Period"

Text Never before has there been any year when the situation of the vegetable crop preceding the spring-summer season was so tense as it was recently. In late March, the average daily supply of vegetables was only 30-odd tons and, for the first 20 days of April, it amounted to only nearly 40 percent of the norm fulfilled in the same period last year. Throughout the first quarter, many cooperatives in areas specialized in vegetable cultivation failed to fulfill the plan. Compared with the same period last year, the yield of many kinds of vegetables such as cabbage, India mustard and potato decreased by more than 5,000 tons.

What are the reasons for the above-mentioned situation? There are many but the principal and noteworthy one is the fact that cooperative members in the vegetable growing areas have not yet really felt a peace of mind in and enthusiasm for production. Through the implementation of the product contract system, we have seen clearly that it is a strong motive power to boost the mass movement to vigorously develop production and that this effect has been demonstrated more clearly by the realities in the areas specialized in vegetable cultivation. However, during the execution of Directive No 100, the guidance exercised over the production plan implementation was still replete with shortcomings, the management of products was very loose and a number of peasants at the outset paid attention merely to the immediate profit, did not fulfill their obligations and responsibilities to the collective and state and also failed to strongly develop the collective ownership spirit in order to harmoniously coordinate all the three benefits. Moreover, there were difficulties with weather conditions, materials, price fluctuations and especially the purchasing method which sometimes caused trouble and inconveniences to cooperative members in certain areas in addition to an arbitrary grading and pricing of goods.

At present, the vegetable market and supply have been normalized except for the fact that stagnation has begun to show up and that dozens of tons of withered bindweed have been destroyed and discarded in some localities.

Moreover, the principal vegetable is still constituted by bindweed only and is not yet supplemented by other kinds of greens to obtain more diversity and to meet the demand and taste of the consumer.

Beside drawing experiences from the recent task of producing and purchasing vegetables and making adequate preparations to eliminate difficulties in the next summer-fall vegetable preharvest period, districts situated in areas specialized in vegetable cultivation must right now reexamine and readjust their Vegetable production plan in accordance with each cooperative's situation, try to cultivate all of the planned areas, make sure that vegetables are available at the beginning of each month and strictly and punctually carry out the signed contract. The review of experiences in implementing the product contract system according to the spirit of Circular No 28 of the Municipal Party Committee must be used as a basis for drawing up a plan to perfect all managerial tasks and, first of all, the management and delivery of products.

The problem of prices and the supply of materials (especially fuel) must be examined and appropriate modifications must be made. In particular, the Vegetables and Fruit Corporation must exert greater efforts to purchase and transport products, vegetable stations must try to sign contracts with a 10-day validity each and the habit of causing difficulties and inconveniences and arbitrarily grading and pricing goods must be avoided.

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AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

CONCERN OVER DEFORESTATION--The council of ministers recently ordered various ministers and the chairmen of people's committees of provinces, cities and special zones under the central authority to review achievements on implementing the regulation on forest protection over the past 10 years. The regulation on forest protection was promulgated 10 years ago, but implementation has not been scrupulously carried out. In recent years, forests have been severely destroyed thereby reducing forest resources dramatically and damaging the economy. The chairman of the council of ministers urged the Ministry of Forestry and people's committees of provinces, cities and sectors concerned to review their tasks over the past 10 years, especially the implementation of the regulation on forest protection and its achievements; discuss measures to develop good models to draw experiences on management and supervision; study the cause of deforestation and design measures to stop forest destruction; and to clearly affirm their tasks concerning guiding, supervising and educating the people, cadres, workers, civil servants and troops to implement the forest protection regulation satisfactorily and to propose new policies and positions on management and protection of forests in order to implement the regulation scrupulously. The council of ministers assigned the Ministry of Forestry to supervise this review and report the results to the chairman of the council of ministers at the end of 1982. [Text] [BK091355 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Jul 82]

RICE PLANTING, HARVEST FIGURES--After largely finishing the 5th-month-spring rice harvest, the north has vigorously shifted to cultivating the 10th-month rice and by 5 July 1982 had sown rice seed on 115,390 hectares, plowed over 819,000 hectares of ricefields and transplanted upland and early 10th-month rice on more than 225,000 hectares. Thanh Hoa, Hai Hung and Vinh Phu Provinces have finished or almost finished sowing the 10th-month rice seed. Meanwhile, other provinces are continuing to sow late seed and making preparations for sowing reserve seed. By the end of the seasonal period, the southern provinces had transplanted summer-fall rice on 671,000 hectares, fulfilling 91.7 percent of the area plan. The provinces that exceeded their respective summer-fall rice area plans are Cuu Long, by 27.5 percent; An Giang, by 5.9 percent; Dong Nai, by 17 percent; and Dong Thap, by 2.4 percent, Hau Giang Province fulfilled 100 percent of its summer-fall rice area plan. The southern provinces and municipalities ahve also planted the 10th-month rice on 598,000 hectares, fulfilling 29.5 percent of the area plan and scoring an increase of 63,000 hectares over the same period last year. Of this figure, the provinces from Thuan Hai south account for 491,000 hectares or 27 percent of the area plan. [Text] [BK110740 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Jul 82]

NGHIA BINH SUMMER-FALL RICE--Various agricultural cooperatives in Nghia Binh Province have planted more than 47,000 hectares of summer-fall rice. Due to the prolonged draught and the appearance of harmful insects in various areas, the province has urged these cooperatives to improve irrigation system and take measures to eliminate the insects. To date these cooperatives have saved 15,000 out of 18,000 hectares of rice from being ravaged by the harmful insects. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 6 Jul 82 BK]

TIEN GIANG RICE--As of mid-June, Tien Giang Province had delivered to state granaries 98,000 tons of paddy, overfulfilling plan norms by 28 percent. This is the biggest volume of grain the province has ever delivered to the state since 1976. Cai Lay District took the lead in this grain obligation task, overfulfilling plan norm by almost 37 percent. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 1 Jul 82 BK]

HAU GIANG SUMMER-FALL RICE--Hau Giang Province has planted new rice varieties for the summer-fall crop on almost 80,000 hectares of ricefield. Many districts are caring for these ricefields and trying to eliminate harmful insects in their nascent state. The province has also plowed 180,000 hectares of land and planted almost 70,000 hectares of 10th-month rice. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 6 Jul 82 BK]

SWEDISH AID--The Ministry of Agriculture recently held a ceremony in Hanoi to receive the first batch of aid provided by the Swedish Government. The aid--mostly pesticide and spray equipment, valued at 34 million krona--was given to the Vietnamese agricultural sector for the fiscal year of 1981-82. [BK080631 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 6 Jul 82]

SIX-MONTH SEAFOOD PRODUCTION--Hanoi VNA 13 July--The marine products service in the first 6 months of this year produced 204,000 tonnes of sea foods, up by 15.7 percent over the same period last year. The provinces of Tien Giang, Minh Hai, Hau Giang, Ben Tre (southern Vietnam), Quang Nam-Danang and Nghe Tinh (central Vietnam) overfulfilled their plans. Minh Hai, a province with the highest fish catch, obtained nearly 37,000 tonnes, 93 percent of the annual plan, up by 63 percent over the same period last year. Also in the first 6 months, output of export shrimp was 83 percent above target. Tien Giang Province netted 150 tonnes, and Long An, more than 120 tonnes. [Text] [OW141038 Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT 12 Jul 82]

CSO: 4220/228

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

HANOI HOUSING CONSTRUCTION NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 7 May 82 p 3

Article by Trong Nghia: "Overcome Shortcomings to Improve Quality of Housing Construction"

Text In recent years, the state has paid attention to and made investments in housing construction in Hanoi with the resulting acquisition of a noticeable housing area. For the last 5 years, the entire city has obtained an additional housing area of about 370,000 square meters representing a gross output value of over 150 million dong. It is envisaged that 127 houses with an area of 73,679 square meters (including 59 houses with an area of 39,635 square meters the construction of which began in 1981 and has been carried over to this year) will be delivered in the course of this year. The capital invested for the first quarter alone is composed of the budgeted capital, the contract acceptance capital and the capital owned by various organs and has amounted to 28.185 million dong.

Those are the results recorded together with many works which have been built according to beautiful designs and with a good quality and a layout corresponding to the dwellers' requirements. However, there still remain difficulties and shortcomings requiring solution while experiences must be drawn to obtain greater results from the construction task in the near future.

There have been instances of groundfloor sinking in a number of houses the construction of which was completed not long ago. Worth mentioning are the case of the Thanh Cong area, Quynh Loi, where a 50- to 60-cm deep sinking occurred at some places, and also the case of house C-1 (Thanh Cong) where a 1.1-meter deep sinking forced the occupants of almost all of its five stories to move to another building. The reasons are a slackened technical guidance during the foundation laying process, the inaccuracy of research and the drawing up of unsuitable plans and designs coupled with shortcomings in implementing technical regulations during the work execution stage. Most of the new housing areas were formerly low-lying lands the level of which was raised recently and which included ponds and lakes. After being filled up, these lands should have been allowed a soil settlement period of 4 to 5 years but construction was hastily started to meet the plan requirements. Moreover, the consolidation of weak soil foundations was still very expensive and had to be carried out by complex methods. In certain areas, it was necessary to drive

concrete piles about 10 meters long or stuffed piles Cocj nhooif with a 17-meter length and an 0.5-meter diameter into a 3- to 6-meter thick layer of weak soil prior to building a multistory house.

Leakage of roofs and drenching in the toilet areas are of frequent occurrence. Houses with horizontal roofs have been affected more seriously and there are works which began to leak before being handed over to the dwellers or which were guaranteed for a few years only. Though the Nghia Do duplex area was put into use not long ago, cesspools became obstructed because technical regulations were not strictly applied by the users who raised hogs and poured duckweed stumps or laundry soap water and so forth therein and partly because attention had not been paid to quality in the construction process. In a number of areas, many windows made of bad-quality wood have been battered by strong gusts of wind.

The lack of synchronization between housing construction and the installation of technical and utility facilities has also led to regrettable consequences. In Mai Dich, Kim Giang, the building of a housing area of several thousand square meters was completed some time ago but electricity and water facilities have not yet been installed. Therefore, the cadres and teachers of the University--which was allocated 1,000 square meters in Kim Giang--and the families of the personnel of other agencies who came to dwell there have encountered numerous difficulties in their daily life. For lack of electricity and water facilities, a number of three-storied houses in certain areas such as Tan Mai have not been allotted to dwellers though they were built several years ago; because they have not been protected adequately, the P-11 houses been damaged and one of the units has been stripped of almost all raw materials and equipments by dishonest people.

In view of the above-mentioned incidents, an urgent problem is to further heighten the quality of work execution and especially to ensure the application of technical regulations in carrying out complex and difficult jobs. Is it advisable to simplify the design of kitchen and toilet sections in order to facilitate the implementation of technical regulations during construction? At present, the provision of many unnecessary partition walls, footsteps and platforms will leave the user less room to move about and will make construction expensive and difficult.

In our opinion, it is possible to go ahead and invest in the building of technical and public utility works such as electricity and water facilities, shops, schools, child-care centers, etc., and to intercalate this job with housing construction. As soon as a house has been built, it must be immediately allotted and handed over to the dweller in order to avoid the need to protect it and also to soon put the project into use and exploit its effectiveness. In this way, it will certainly be possible to eliminate losses, damage and the cost of labor and materials in making repairs at the arrival of the occupant. The housing and land management sector must also appoint a housing manager and simultaneously carry out regular repairs in the housing areas; whenever something breaks down, it must be repaired immediately so as to preclude expenditures often incurred in major and widespread repairs. Such a manager has also the duty to instruct and urge everyone to strictly observe multi-story housing regulations and he must also prevent unilateral use and repairs.

This year, the municipal housing sector has started building a housing area of 50,000 square meters (which will total 70,000 square meters if the area built by centrally-run construction units is added). We earnestly hope that the construction inspection units will overcome the shortcomings happening over the past few years so that these projects will be built with a higher quality. In matters of design, is it advisable to harmoniously apply a number of construction methods and to build works with different heights and thicknesses in each housing area so as to offer an uncluttered, beautiful sight? As for the outside of walls, it would be wise to apply a washable granitelike layer which will look better than the mortar layer covering the existing walls and which will not require a coat of whitewash.

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CSO: 4209/378

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

POWER INTERRUPTION ANNOUNCED--Due to an unexpected breakdown in the electric source leading to an insufficiency of power supply, the Hanoi Electricity Service will cut off the power supply used by the urban people in their daily activities. Following are the specific details: In the Hanoi Precinct, power will be cut off on 19 and 21 May. In the Ba Dinh Precinct, power will be cut off on 20 and 22 May. Power will be cut off from 1400 to 2200. In the Dong Da Precinct, in particular, power will be alternately cut down by 50 percent for 4 days from 19 through 22 May (which means that the households in this precinct will have their power supply cut off 1 day and will again receive it on the next day. The cutoff period will also extend from 1400 to 2200). Text Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 20 May 82 p 4 9332

POWER SUPPLY CURTAILMENT--To concentrate power on the agricultural sector to enable it to fight drought, as of 5 May and everyday from 0700 to 1700, the Hanoi Electricity Service will cut off the power supplied for the urban people's consumption and activities. Text Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 5 May 82 p 4 9332

CSO: 4209/378

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

FUEL SAVING IN TRUCK TRANSPORTATION UNDERLINED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 30 Apr 82 p 3

Article by Eng Tran Dinh Tang, Deputy Chief of the Truck Transport Department: "Economizing Fuel in the Truck Transport Sector"

Text We are encountering very great difficulties with energy and raw materials in the initial stage of the national industrialization process. These difficulties include the extremely acute problem of gasoline and oil shortage which affects transport means, in general, and the truck transport sector, in particular.

In fact, due to the gasoline and oil shortage, the planned task assigned to the truck transport sector comes to only between 60 and 80 percent of the norms fulfilled in the previous years and this has occurred at a time when the need to transport goods and promote the people's traveling is increasing with each passing day. Over the past few years, the gasoline and oil prices have spiraled up in the world market, especially in the capitalist camp. Under the influence of the common market prices, the fuel prices in the CEMA bloc has increased seven times in the recent past.

Therefore, economizing fuel has become a state policy of many countries in the world, especially the developing ones. In ours, economizing and even strictly economizing fuel has become and is becoming a very important and urgent problem.

The question raised is "to ensure that energy, supplies and raw materials are used for the right purposes and with effectiveness and that such use is made according to the set standards and norms, with special attention to be paid to important and rare kinds of materials such as electricity, coal, gasoline and oil" as indicated in Resolution 15 of the Council of Ministers. "Since the amount of means and materials supplied by the state is only equal to or even smaller than that in the past, it is necessary to perform the production task better to yield a larger quantity of material wealth." It follows that we must intensively ponder and find out measures to economize fuel.

We have been able to draw many lively lessons from the profound and vivid realities of the fuel saving movement which has been launched almost everywhere. We may consider the fuel saving problem to be a uniform program with

definite targets. Uniform measures must be formulated to obtain an optimum combined result and to lower the gasoline consumption rate per 1,000 ton/kms of transportation.

To solve this targeted mathematical problem, it is necessary, in our opinion, to focus on a satisfactory application of three principal measures: Continuously perfecting the technical nature of the automobile and raising the professional standard of the driver; better applying economic-technical norms in transportation; and properly implementing measures aimed at strictly controlling technique, transportation operation and management.

The automobile is a mechanized transport means derived from the achievements of many branches of advanced science. Because it is a production tool of a scientific character, we must of course use it in a very scientific manner. The first question is to bring the automobile back to its primary technical status. Ensuring the primary technical nature of the automobile is precisely the most important condition to economically exploit its usefulness.

It is necessary to make sure that the pressures in the cylinders at the end of the compression cycle are equal and conformable to the fixed value. Such adjustment has brought about a surprising result: Gasoline consumption of a ZIL vehicle has come down from 40 to 29.5 liters per 100 kms. A 40-percent saving of gasoline may be obtained following an inspection and correct setting of the ignition points. According to foreign countries' documents, incorrect setting of the ignition points may increase gasoline consumption by 60 to 80 percent over the normal rate. Carburator inspection and adjustment and other readjustments are also necessary to reduce gasoline consumption.

It is possible to set up a unit of high-grade mechanics with some portable tools to assume the task of inspecting and readjusting both the fuel and ignition systems of every vehicle in order to save fuel. This type of action may be taken everywhere and will surely prove effective. With boldness in thought and deed, Automobile Transport Enterprise No 2 has over the past few years conducted research and manufactured carburator jets for two types of vehicles named "Giai Phong" Liberation and ZIL-130 and has so far produced more than 1,200 equipment kits for many vehicles; as a result, great savings have been made. Acting on its own, Automobile Repair Plant B2-30 has carried out research and produced carburators for the "Giai Phong" vehicles to replace the wornout ones; it has also made great efforts in other technical fields to save fuel.

Improving the automotive technique to save fuel is a correct and basic guideline that may be applied in many localities; to do so, it is only necessary to follow this advice by Uncle Ho: "If one takes pains to ponder with one's brain and to work with one's hands, one will surely make some innovation." Another point is to continuously heighten the professional standard of the driver. Driving on the right gear, running the vehicle smoothly and so forth is a method which has been applied in and condensed from practical experiences in order to achieve a higher effect in fuel saving. Since there still are many possibilities of saving fuel, we will be able to formulate more progressive methods.

All measures must be worked out to economize fuel by raising the transportation operation norms and, first and foremost, by heightening the covered distance coefficient. Calculations have shown that raising the covered distance coefficient by 1 percent on the average will bring about a saving of 1.25 kg of gasoline per 1,000 ton/kms.

There are great potentials to exploit and better exploit the above-mentioned norms to save fuel.

The coefficient of used load capacity is also a norm which, if raised, will have the effect of reducing fuel consumption; if raised by 1 percent, it will lead to a reduction of 0.95 kg of gasoline for each 1,000 ton/kms. What is important is to choose a vehicle suitable for the specific weight of each type of goods and also to heighten its body walls when carrying light but cumbersome merchandises.

Trailer hauling is also a very important measure to achieve high productivity and great saving in transportation.

For vehicles running on gasoline, if the trailer hauling coefficient is raised by 1 percent, about 1 kg of gasoline will be saved per 1,000 tons/kms. In the years preceding the anti-U.S. war for national salvation, the centrally-run truck transport enterprises raised the trailer hauling coefficient by as much as 24 percent. After the war, many units maintained the trailer hauling practice such as Truck Transport Enterprise No 20 which had a trailer hauling rate of 31.32 percent.

In recent years, the trailer hauling rate has come down to only 10 percent due to difficulties with tires and automotive technique and also to inappropriate systems and policies. In view of the current difficult situation, this practice is the first important measure to be remembered if an economical use of fuel is to be achieved.

At present, the state is conducting a major research program on fuel saving in the use of automotive transport means; this program has been assigned to the Draft Power Research Institute of the Ministry of Communications and Transportation. This is a very appropriate research subject in view of the present fuel shortage. The building of new 56-passenger seat "I-pha" U50 buses, the planned fabrication of 6-ton load trailers, the use of charcoal and natural gas instead of gasoline to run vehicles and so forth are very encouraging results of the recent researches and must be applied widely.

Management has also a great potential to save fuel. We are of the opinion that the technical measures related to the exploitation of transport means will prove effective only when a series of appropriate and strict managerial measures are taken. Obviously, to save fuel, it is necessary to simultaneously exercise management over many aspects such as purchase, preservation, distribution and use; among these measures, control over use must be considered the primary one. Experiences drawn from progressive truck transport enterprises have demonstrated that to exercise good management, it is necessary to fix a fuel consumption norm for each transportation line and to control the norm set for each trip.

Another noteworthy question is to formulate a system of appropriate rewards for fuel saving. When offering a reward, attention must be paid to all the three benefits including that of the driver which must be given due importance.

As pointed out by Resolution 15 of the Council of Ministers, "there must be a system of offering rewards amounting to 70 percent of the saving value reckoned on the basis of the current state price. If the economized material ranks among the import goods, this must be taken into consideration and a greater reward offered." This is a guideline for us to ponder and apply.

Though the above-mentioned measures have not yet been implemented uniformly and extensively, the truck transport sector has reaped fairly noticeable results from savings. Over the past 5 years (1976-1980), the centrally-run automobile transport enterprises alone managed to bring gasoline consumption from 103.86 kgs down to 97.68 kgs per 1,000 ton/kms. Faced with very great difficulties with gasoline and oil in 1981, the entire sector strove to lower gasoline consumption to 89.68 kgs per 1,000 ton/kms.

Clearly, fuel saving is a major and urgent problem for the automobile transport sector. This problem can be solved only if we simultaneously implement all the three measures on technique, transportation operation and management. Only on this basis can we create an aggregate strength to exploit all potentials to effectively save fuel.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

FRG, OXFAM AID--On 28 June the Ministry of Public Health held a ceremony in Hanoi to receive 40 tons of pharmaceutical products, medicine and medical equipment given as aid to Vietnam by the FRG caritas organization. On the same day the Ministry of Public Health also received almost 12 tons of medicine and medical equipment given by the British Oxfam Organization. [BK080631 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 30 Jun 82]

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